Docket No.

000004.00679

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Tsuguo SATOH et al.

SERIAL NO:

10/602,664

GAU:

2874

FILED: Ju

June 25, 2003

EXAMINER:

Unassigned

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FERRULE HEATING APPARATUS AND METHOD OF ADHERING FERRULE AND OPTICAL FIBER

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# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. BOX 1450

ALEXANDRIA, VA. 22313-1450

SIR

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

#### REFERENCES

The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.

A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

### **RELATED CASES**

Attached is a copy of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. These documents are listed on form PTO-1449, also attached.

A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

### **CERTIFICATION**

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the subject patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

## **PETITION**

Applicant(s) hereby request consideration of the attached information. A check is attached in the amount of the Petition fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1).

#### **DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number <u>23-2185</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted,

BLANK ROME LLP

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Date: April 15, 2004

Michael D. White Attorney of Record Registration No. 32,795

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